



PAINSCASTLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1964

Officials:-

Medical Officer of Health ... W.M.E.Anderson, M.D., B.Ch., D.S.O.
Public Health Inspector ... Wm. D. Morgans, C.R.S.H.

PAINSCASTLE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
(Radnorshire)

Report of the Medical Officer of Health

1 9 6 4

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report upon the sanitary conditions and state of the public health in the Painscastle Rural District during the year 1964.

In this report I have endeavoured to deal briefly with all matters within my responsibility regarding public health and preventive medicine and I have included comments on all the subjects specifically requested in Circular 1/65(Wales) issued by the Welsh Board of Health.

SECTION 1. GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS

Area 31,414 acres.

<u>Population</u>	Census 1931	2,149.
	" 1951	1,790.
	" 1961	1,736.
	Estimated Midsummer 1964	1,650.

The Registrar General's estimated population for the last 10 years was:-

1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
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1,810	1,810	1,790	1,800	1,780	1,790	1,780	1,710	1,690	1,690
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Inhabited Houses

The number of inhabited houses in the district was 564 giving an average number of 2.9 persons per house.

Live Births

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate per 1000 population</u>
Legitimate	5	7	12	
Illegitimate	1	1	2	
	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>14</u>	8.48

The corrected birthrate was 10.9

The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 18.4

The district rate was therefore lower than the national average.

Still births

There was one still birth registered in 1964.

Deaths

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate per 1000 population</u>
	12	10	22	13.3

The corrected deathrate was 12.3

The corresponding rate for England and Wales was 11.3

The district rate was therefore higher than the national average.

Infant Deaths

No deaths were recorded in children under one year of age.

Maternal Deaths

No deaths could be attributed to childbirth or abortion during 1964.

Analysis of Causes of Deaths

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Malignant Neoplasm (Stomach)	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm (Breast)	-	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	-	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	1	-
Coronary Disease. Angina.	4	3
Hypertension with Heart Disease	1	-
Other Heart Disease	2	3
Pneumonia	1	-
Bronchitis	1	-
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	1	1
All other accidents	1	-
	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>

SECTION 2. GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICE

Public Health Officers The Public Health Inspector is Mr. William David Morgans who holds the appointment jointly with the Hay Urban and Hay Rural District Councils.

Laboratory Facilities Laboratory facilities are available at Hereford and Carmarthen and all water samples are sent to these Laboratories. Investigation required in the control of infectious disease is performed at the Public Health Laboratory at Hereford.

Nursing and Other Facilities The Radnorshire County Council is responsible for these services. The County Council also administer the maternity and child welfare clinics where treatment is available for minor ailments, dental, eye and orthopaedic defects. Immunisation against diphtheria, polio-myelitis and whooping-cough is also carried out at these clinics.

Hospitals The hospital needs of the district for all diseases, apart from infectious diseases, are provided for at the County and General Hospitals at Hereford. A few cases are also admitted to Brecon and Llandrindod. Hereford and Merthyr Tydfil Isolation Hospitals receive cases of infectious disease.

Mortuary and Post-Mortem Facilities The Breconshire Welfare Committee have loaned a room at Cockcroft House, Hay-on-Wye, for this purpose and this is equipped and maintained jointly by Painscastle and Hay Rural and Hay Urban District Councils. The part-time Mortuary Attendant gave up his duties during the year and difficulty was experienced in obtaining the services of a suitable man. The Pathologist from Hereford has asked that all post mortem examinations should be performed at Hereford.

SECTION 3. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Hay and Painscastle Area Water Scheme

Tenders were received for Contract No.1 for this scheme which included Exploratory Works at the various sites of the proposed Pumping Stations and Reservoirs and along the routes of the water mains; the work was carried out and reports submitted to the Council and the Consulting Engineers.

The plan showing farm supplies at Llanbwchllyn Lake was also submitted and the positions of drinking troughs etc. agreed with the farmers concerned.

The Radnorshire County Council have granted planning permission for the reservoirs, pumping stations and treatment plants in the Painscastle Rural District.

The Ministry of Housing & Local Government gave approval to the invitation of tenders for the whole of the scheme and the Consulting Engineers proceeded to obtain tenders for the Treatment Works at Llyswen and Llandilo-Graban and for laying the mains and construction of reservoirs and pumping stations.

Water Supplies in the District

The Council own five water supplies serving the villages of their district and details of each parish are given below:-

Boughrood Parish

Water for this village comes from springs situated in the parish of Llyswen and supplied by Hay Rural District Council. Water being fed by gravitation across Boughrood Bridge over the River Wye.

There was sufficient water for the consumers during the year although the yield from the spring sources fell during the dry summer months.

The farms and cottages situated away from the village are served by small private piped supplies and springs and these were also affected during the dry weather.

2 samples were taken from the main supply and these were satisfactory.

Number of properties connected to public mains		27.
Population served from public mains		78.

Bryngwyn Parish

The Council own the supply serving the hamlet of Rhosgoch. Water is collected from shallow springs to a small reservoir and is fed to the properties by gravitation. There was an adequate supply during the year.

The other farms and cottages in the parish have private piped supplies or springs and these are generally insufficient in times of drought.

A sample of water was taken from the main supply and this was satisfactory

Number of properties connected to public water mains		21.
Population served from public mains		59.

Clyro Parish

The Council own the supply serving the village of Clyro. Water being collected from springs to a small reservoir where it is chlorinated by the drip-feed method and then by gravitation to the village.

The yield from the springs was much reduced during the summer and autumn and an overflow from a nearby private source was connected into the reservoir:turning off at nighttime was also necessary for a short time.

One additional property was connected to the main during the year.

The farms and cottages situated away from the village have their own small private piped supplies or springs and these are generally insufficient in times of drought.

6 samples were taken from the Council mains during the year; 2 being satisfactory and 4 unsatisfactory.

7 samples from private sources were also taken; 6 being satisfactory and one unsatisfactory.

Number of properties connected to public water mains		47.
Population served from public mains		141.

Glasbury Parish

The Council own the supply serving the village of Glasbury. Water being obtained from springs at Cwmbach to a small reservoir where it is chlorinated by the drip-feed method and then by gravitation to the consumers.

During the dry summer and autumn the yield from the springs fell to a low level and the supply was augmented by the Glasbury(Breconshire) supply owned by Hay Rural District Council; water being obtained from Velindre reservoir and fed by gravitation across Glasbury Bridge over the River Wye.

Additional lengths of $\frac{3}{4}$ " and 1" polythene tube were laid from the catch pits to improve the quantity of water available at the reservoir.

The Council also obtain water from Radnorshire County Council (Smallholdings Department) and this is piped to a number of houses at Ciltwrch and Ffynnon-Gynydd situated in the northern part of the parish. Failure of this supply occurred on several occasions during the year due to failure of the pumping plant at the borehole source at Skynlala Farm owned by Radnorshire County Council. Water was then transported in cans to the residents each day.

3 samples from the main supply were taken; one being satisfactory and 2 unsatisfactory.

Number of properties connected to public water mains	103.
Population served from public mains	288.

Llandewi-fach Parish

There is no public water supply in this parish; the farms obtaining water from their own small private piped supplies or springs.

4 samples were taken from private sources and these were unsatisfactory; the owners being advised on methods of improving the quality of water for new piped sources.

Number of properties connected to public water mains	0.
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Llanbedr-Paincastle Parish

There is no public water supply in this parish, there is however a small private supply serving the village of Paincastle which comprises 4 farms and 6 houses. The other properties in the parish have their own small piped supplies or springs and these are generally inadequate in drought periods.

No samples were taken in this parish during the year.

Number of properties connected to public water mains	0.
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Llanstephan Parish

There is no public water supply in this parish but some 13 houses are served from a private supply. The other properties have their own small piped supplies or springs.

No samples were taken in this parish during the year.

Number of properties connected to public water mains	0.
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Llandilo-Graban Parish

There is no public water supply in this parish apart from a standpipe serving some 4 properties. The other dwellings are served by their own private piped supplies or springs and the parish is affected by a water shortage in times of drought.

4 samples were taken from private sources; 3 being satisfactory and one unsatisfactory.

Number of properties connected to public water mains	0.
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Llowes Parish

The Council own the supply serving the village of Llowes. Water being obtained from springs to a small reservoir where it is filtered and chlorinated by the drip-feed method and then by gravitation to the village.

The yield dropped to a low level during the dry summer and autumn and turning off at nighttime was necessary on a number of occasions.

4 samples from the main supply were taken; 3 being satisfactory and one unsatisfactory.

Number of properties connected to public water mains	17.
Number of properties served from standpipes	3.
Population served from public water supply	56.

General

Number of general inspections to water supplies in 1964	36.
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Drainage and Sewerage

The position with regard to public sewerage schemes for the district is as follows:-

Glasbury Village

The sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for this village which was completed in 1963 has been working satisfactorily and further properties have been connected to the sewers, some of these qualified for a 50% contribution towards the cost under the Public Health Act, 1936.

Llowes Village

This village will be the next one to be provided with a sewerage and sewage disposal scheme and the Ministry of Housing & Local Government have already given approval following slight modifications requested by their Engineering Inspector.

Clyro Village

Investigations into the proposed sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for this village will be undertaken following after the Llowes scheme.

General

There are 5 small septic tank units and 2 cesspools constructed by the Council serving their housing estates.

A sewage works maintenance team is employed by the Council, jointly with Hay Rural and Hay Urban District Councils, and comprises two workmen with a small van. Regular inspections and maintenance is carried out to all sewage works and septic tank units. The emptying of the tanks and cesspools is undertaken by a local contractor using a proper vehicle for that purpose.

Number of inspections made to sewage disposal works	11.
Number of inspections made to drainage work	29.

Public Cleansing

The refuse collection service is undertaken by the Council's workmen and lorry jointly with Hay Rural and Hay Urban District Councils under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector; the refuse being disposed of by controlled tipping on the Clyro tip. Refuse is collected once weekly in the parishes of Clyro, Llowes, Glasbury, Boughrood and Llanstephan, and monthly in the the parishes of Bryngwyn, Llandilo-Graban and Llanbedr-Paincastle.

Number of inspections to refuse tip	12.
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Sanitary Inspection of the Area

The sanitary inspection of the area is undertaken by the Public Health Inspector and the following details give information relating to this work for 1964:-

Nuisances

Number of complaints received	17.
Number of complaints investigated	17.
Number of premises inspected	13.
Number of premises re-visited	6.
Number of Preliminary Notices served	0.
Number of Abatement Notices served	0.

Verminous Premises (excluding rats and mice)

Number of premises inspected	0.
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Offensive Trades

There are no offensive trades in the district.

Common Lodging Houses

There are no Common Lodging Houses in the district.

Licensed Premises

There are 6 licensed premises in the district.

Number of inspections made	8.
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Caravan Sites

There is a licensed caravan site at Fforest Cwm Farm, Clyro, for 3 permanent residential and 9 holiday caravans and the owner has provided satisfactory sanitary accommodation and drainage.

A site near Boat Inn, Llandilo-Graban, has been licensed for 6 holiday caravans for a temporary period of three years ending on 1st. April, 1966.

Planning permission was granted during the year for the establishment of a caravan site at Travelly Farm, Llowes, for up to 15 holiday caravans. Before a Site Licence is issued the Council will want to be satisfied as to the adequacy of the water supply, sanitary arrangements etc.

Number of inspections made to caravans sites 9.

Rodent Control

One full-time rodent operator is employed jointly with Hay Rural and Hay Urban District Councils under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

	1962	1963	1964
Number of premises inspected during 1964	358	378	379
Number of premises found infested	79	97	91
Number of premises treated by the rodent operator	58	73	66
Number of premises treated by the occupier	21	24	25
Estimated number of rats killed in 1964	742	717	630
Number of dead rats picked up during 1964	221	186	165

SECTION 4. HOUSING

The Council own 48 houses of which 42 have been built since 1946. The erection of 8 Old Persons' Bungalows with Communal Centre at Glasbury were planned during the year and work on these is expected to commence during 1965.

There were 4 private houses erected in 1964 which makes a total of 27 private houses completed since 1946.

The Council approved one application for a Discretionary Grant during the year amounting to £265.

The Council approved 8 applications for Standard Grants for a total sum not exceeding £1,769.

Number of house to house inspections made 81.

Housing Applications

At the 31st. December, 1964 there were 13 applicants on the Housing List for Council houses as follows:-

Parish	Number of applicants
Glasbury	7.
Llowes	3.
Clyro	2.
Boughrood	1.
	<u>13.</u>

Housing Act, 1957

1. Number of houses demolished	0.
2. Number of unfit houses closed	0.
3. Number of unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied	4.
4. Number of unfit houses in temporary use	0.
5. Number of houses unfit for human habitation at the end of 1964	28.

SECTION 5. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Meat

There is one slaughterhouse in the district situated at Boughrood and owned by Mr. H. Williams.

Number of inspections made to the slaughterhouse 79.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part:-

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed and inspected	56	0	295	78	0
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	0	0	0	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	0	2	1	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis	1.8	0	0.7	1.2	0
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	0	0	0	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	0	0	0	0	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0	0	0	0	0
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	0	0	0	0	0
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	0	0	0	0	0
Generalised and totally condemned	0	0	0	0	0

Foods condemned

There was 8 lbs. meat condemned during the year.

Meat Inspection Regulations 1963

The Painscastle Rural District Council have agreed to charge the maximum permitted under the Regulations, viz:-

2s. 6d. per beast (other than a calf)

9d. per calf or pig.

6d. per sheep or lamb.

Milk

There are two dealers trading in the district who sell T.T. pasteurised and sterilised milk both operating from dairies situated outside the district; one being in Hay Urban and the other in Brecon Borough.

The responsibility for registering dealers and taking of milk samples is the responsibility of the County Council.

Ice-cream Premises

There are 3 premises registered for the sale of pre-packed ice-cream. No samples were taken during the year.

Number of inspections to ice-cream premises 11.

Food Preparation Rooms (including bakehouses)

There is one butcher's shop in the district.

Number of inspections made in 1964 16.

There are no bakehouses in the district.

Fried Fish Shops

There are no such premises in the district.

Shops

There are 6 shops which deal in food in the district and these may be classified as follows:-

Grocers (General) 4.

Tobacconists/Confectioners 1.

Butchers 1.

Number of inspections to food shops in 1964 8.

No foodstuffs were condemned from shops in 1964.

Typhoid Outbreak at Aberdeen (June 1964)

In accordance with the Ministry of Health's directions a check was made at all food shops, hotels and canteens to see if any stocks of certain brands of South American corned beef or tongue were being sold. The stocks at a number of premises were inspected but no tins of the suspected brands were found.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963.

Employers have submitted details of their premises under this Act and particulars were forwarded to the Fire Authority.

Number of notices received 2.

SECTION 6. PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

There were no cases of infectious disease notified during 1964. The district was, therefore, remarkably free of these diseases.

Venereal Disease

The County Council has an agreement with the County Hospital at Hereford for the treatment of such cases.

Diphtheria Immunisation and Polio-myelitis Vaccination

The County Council is responsible for the immunisation of children against diphtheria and polio-myelitis and details for the district will be found in the Annual Report of the County Medical Officer.

Facilities for immunisation and vaccination are available at the clinic in Hay-on-Wye owned by Breconshire County Council, and at the surgeries of the medical practitioners in the area.

Yours faithfully,

Council Offices,

Hay-on-Wye,

Hereford.

Telephone: Hay-on-Wye 79.

W. M. E. ANDERSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

APPENDIX

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1964 FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF PAINSCASTLE IN THE COUNTY OF RADNOR.

Prescribed particulars in the administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspector)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspection (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	-	-	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	6	9	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
	6	9	-	-

2. CASES in which DEFECTS were found:-

No defects were found in the premises listed above during the year 1964.

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK
Sections 110 and 111

There was no outwork done in the district during 1964.

W. M. E. ANDERSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

